

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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R 221350Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4193

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: IS, PINT
SUBJECT: ASHER YADLIN DENIED BAIL: INVESTIGATION MAY
IMPLICATE HOUSING MINISTER OFER

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 6179
(B) TEL AVIV 6785
(C) TEL AVIV 7148
(D) TEL AVIV 7270

1. FORMER KUPAT HOLIM (HISTADRUT SICK FUND) CHAIRMAN
ASHER YADLIN, INDICTED TOGETHER WITH HIS SISTER SARAH HARI
DECEMBER 13 ON NUMEROUS COUNTS OF BRIBERY,
FRAUD AND FALSIFICATION OF RECORDS (REFTELS), WAS ORDERED BY A
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE ON DECEMBER 20 TO BE HELD
IN POLICE CUSTODY UNTIL HIS TRIAL, NOW SCHEDULED
FOR FEBRUARY 1977, IS COMPLETED. THE JUDGE CONSENTED TO
A PROSECUTION REQUEST THAT YADLIN BE DENIED BAIL AND
REJECTED THE DEFENSE'S CONTENTION THAT CHARGES AGAINST
YADLIN WERE NOT SERIOUS ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY HIS REMAND
BEYOND THE 67 DAYS HE HAS ALREADY SPENT IN JAIL. PRESS
ARTICLES INDICATE THAT THE DENIAL OF BAIL FOR YADLIN
WAS INTENDED TO PREVENT HIM FROM INFLUENCING SEVERAL
KEY WITNESSES AND WILL ALSO PROVIDE THE POLICE MORE
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TIME TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL CHARGES.

2. WE HAVE HEARD THAT THE POLICE, AFTER EXTENSIVE
INVESTIGATIONS, HAVE NOT FOUND ANY INDICATION THAT
THE LABOR PARTY WAS INVOLVED IN DEALINGS WITH YADLIN.
THIS REPORT, IF TRUE, WOULD BE CAUSE FOR RELIEF FOR

THOSE WORRIED AT THE EFFECTS OF A WIDESPREAD SCANDAL DURING AN ELECTION YEAR. A SECOND POLICE INVESTIGATION, HOWEVER, IS FOCUSING ON ALLEGED ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES BY HOUSING MINISTER OFER DURING THE LATE SIXTIES WHEN HE WAS CONCURRENTLY DEPUTY MAYOR OF TEL AVIV AND HEAD OF SHIKUN OVDIM (THE HISTADRUT HOUSING COMPANY). MORE-OVER, REPORTED INVOLVEMENT OF HISTADRUT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY SOLEL BONEH IN BOTH SCANDALS MAY YET PROVIDE A LINK BETWEEN THE TWO CASES. GAL LAVIV, THE JOURNALIST WHO BROUGHT ON YADLIN'S DOWNFALL BY FURNISHING INFORMATION TO THE POLICE, BELIEVES THAT OFER WILL END UP IN JAIL. THUS FAR, HOWEVER, POLICE HAVE KEPT RESULTS OF THEIR INVESTIGATION QUIET.

TOON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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